

For: FSA Offices

**Extending the Application Closing Date for 2003 Unseeded Forage on  
Federal- and State-Owned Land**

**Approved by:** Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



**1 Overview**

**A Background**

Unseeded forage acreage on Federal- and State-owned lands was not eligible for NAP coverage for the 2001 and preceding crop years. For 2002 and succeeding crop years, eligible forage acreage on Federal- and State-owned lands includes seeded and unseeded forage acreage.

1-NAP (Rev.1):

- Amendment 14 provided procedure for determining the forage eligibility of unseeded Federal- and State-owned lands
- Amendment 15 provided clarification of procedure for determining eligibility of leased land, including Federal- and State-owned lands.

COC continue to make eligibility determinations of leases for unseeded Federal- and State-owned lands after the STC-established application closing date.

**B Purpose**

This notice announces a nationwide extension of the application closing date for NAP coverage of 2003 crop year unseeded forage on Federal- and State-owned lands.

Disposal Date	Distribution
February 1, 2004	All FAS Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

## **2 Application Procedure**

### **A Extended Application Closing Date**

Producers of 2003 crop year unseeded forage on Federal- and State-owned lands who did not file an application for coverage (CCC-471) by the STC-established application closing date, shall be permitted to file an application for coverage (CCC-471) through May 2, 2003.

### **B Applications for Coverage**

Applications for coverage for 2003 crop year unseeded forage on Federal- and State-owned lands filed after the STC-established application closing date and subsequently denied shall be reconsidered and producers notified of COC action.

Applications for coverage shall be determined ineligible if:

- filed in the County Office after May 2, 2003
- received in the County Office through mail postmarked after May 2, 2003
- filed in the County Office by COB, May 2, 2003, without payment of the applicable service fees
- received in the County Office through mail postmarked by COB, May 2, 2003, without payment of the applicable service fees.

**Note:** These deadlines do not apply to applications for coverage received by the STC-established application closing date.

Service fees received in the County Office after May 2, 2003, or received through mail postmarked after May 2, 2003, shall:

- not be deposited
- be returned to the applicant.

### 3 Coverage Period

#### A Coverage Period

For acreage enrolled according to instructions in this notice, coverage of the unseeded forage acreage shall begin on June 2, 2003, and only those eligible losses occurring during the coverage period will be used as the basis for determination of payment eligibility.

**Example:** Producers reported crop damage caused by a disaster event occurring on June 15, 2003. Payments shall be determined using the total crop year AUD and COC-established percentage of loss.

Producers are not eligible for NAP payment if crop damage did not occur during the coverage period.

**Example:** A hailstorm occurs May 4, 2003. No other disaster event occurs during the crop year. Producers under this circumstance that file according to this notice are not eligible for NAP payments because the hailstorm did not occur during the coverage period.

**Notes:** In the case of ongoing disaster events that carryover into the coverage period, i.e. drought, consider the event as occurring during the coverage period.

For all CCC-471's filed by the STC-established application closing date, the coverage period shall be established according to 1-NAP (Rev. 1), paragraph 22.

The following statement shall be handwritten on CCC-471's filed according to this notice:

“Only crop damage occurring after June 2, 2003, will be used as the basis for determining 2003 NAP payment eligibility.”

Applicants shall initial the statement.

**4 Action**

**A State Office Action**

State Offices shall:

- publicize the application period on a Statewide basis using all available media
- ensure County Offices complete all the items in subparagraph B.

**B County Office Action**

County Offices shall:

- publicize the extended application closing date using all available media
- notify all known eligible producers of the extended application closing date
- ensure each applicant initials the statement included on the application for coverage according to subparagraph 3 A
- determine ineligible applications for coverage and handle applicable service fees according to subparagraph 2 B.